

the State Auditor when this bill is enacted but it does place in a central point the responsibility for performance review. The major justification for placing it in the Legislative Fiscal Office is the fact that our legislative staff is throughout the year meeting with the key agencies of state government as often as once or twice a week, throughout the year. So our legislative people in that office have a close contact with the agency and its performance. The budget for the... requested by the State Auditor for the current year is ninety plus thousand. You see that there is no fiscal impact, no "A" bill attached, because we think the cost in the Legislative Fiscal Analyst would be relatively minor, certainly under fifty thousand dollars. I would like to point out that if one of the two "sunset" bills now being considered by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee is passed to this body or both are passed out this body and one is ultimately enacted, the capabilities for that kind of "sunset" review will be found in the performance review functions we are giving to our legislative fiscal analyst. So the fiscal impact of those "sunset" bills, if any, will be very slight if this bill is enacted. There is one other significant change that I should mention. Presently, as some of you know, we have an audit review committee in this Legislature. It has been dormant. It is made up, as I understand, of the chairmen of the standing committees. This bill would propose folding into this new committee, a committee constituted of the Appropriations Committee, the Speaker and the Chairman of the Executive Board, in other words, an eleven-member board. The requirements for viewing the audit returns from the State Auditor's Office on a routine basis to insure that we understand what is happening in the state agencies so that we might make corrections the following year. So we have folded into the performance review committee which must consider these performance reviews on at least a quarterly basis the audit review function. So we come out with a committee named the Performance Review and Audit Committee, or if we have an inconsistency in wording, we will have to work it out later, perhaps Performance Audit and Review Committee. In any case, those are the purposes of the bill. I believe that Senator Simon will introduce an amendment hereafter which is a compromise to try to alleviate some of the concerns that have been raised by political subdivisions.

CLERK: Mr. President, there is a motion to amend on the bill on the desk. Read amendment. (See page 367, Journal.) Signed Senator Simon.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Simon.

SENATOR SIMON: Senator Chambers just pointed out to me that my grammar was a little bit incorrect and I would like to change the word "has" to "have". Now that that has been duly corrected, I would like to speak to the amendment. When the bill was introduced, I know it was the intent of Senator Bereuter and myself, certainly as the co-sponsor, that the general areas that were going to be studied would be those on the state level. However, there was much concern and alarm that was brought down by political subdivisions, by local levels, to the fact they would be checked out, that we intended to check out their programs and would not take care of the state